

Pastor's Updates

December 22, 2023



Things you may want to know this week

1. Twenty-five (25) years ago, I baptized the youngest of the three daughters of my younger sister. Tomorrow, December 23, I will officiate **her wedding** here in our church. I don't remember growing older, when did she? My sister and her family have migrated to Canada where my niece met her future husband, but they decided to have their wedding here in our church. Love is in the air and Christmas is here!
 2. This Sunday, December 24, is the 4th and **last Sunday of Advent**. It is also the shortest Sunday of Advent. Later in the afternoon we will already celebrate Christmas Eve. Sorry, but in this case you cannot "hit two birds with one stone." The Mass in the afternoon is for Christmas and does not count for your Sunday obligation. You still need to attend any of the morning Masses on Sunday or the Saturday evening anticipated Mass. Please see below for the schedule of Christmas Masses.
 3. I informed our parish leaders the other day that I will be away for six months for my **Sabbatical program** at the Institute of Continuing Theological Education (ICTE) at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. I will be leaving on January 7 and coming back on June 30, 2024. **Fr. Boie Espeleta** will be the parish administrator while I am away.
- #### 4. THANK YOUs!
- a. Our **St. Robert's Conference of SVDP** wants to thank everyone who contributed to the Adopt-a-Family Tree, or was at the InBetweeners' dinner. Due to your generosity, we were able to provide Christmas presents and food to 23 families in San Bruno. Your generosity is astounding and very much appreciated! Thank-you all!
 - b. Thank-you to everyone who contributed to our **Adopt-A-Family** giving tree outside the church this year. The amount of toys, presents and gift cards you gave was beyond generous! Families in our St. Vincent de Paul Conference, Redwood City Catholic Worker House and children through San Mateo County Social Services as well as St. Anthony of Padua, RWC, all benefited from your generosity! Thank-you very much!
 - c. Thank you to those who contributed to the huge success of the **2023 Giving Tree Campaign**. We appreciate your support.
 - d. Thank you to **David Kerrigan**, who trimmed our trees behind the church, and to all the kind hearted gentlemen who cleaned up the branches. It must be St. Joseph telling us to clean the area because his statue is arriving sooner than expected. Hopefully, we can enthrone St. Joseph at our St. Joseph Woods before the end of the year. Or if not then early next year, meaning next month.
 - e. Thank you to all who came to clean and decorate our church for Christmas. As always, with **Una Uniacke's** supervision, the church looks so nice and festive for Christmas.
5. Our monthly **Grief Support Meeting** will be held on Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 9:15am in the Convent. The meeting is open to all who are grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information, please email: Judy Kerrigan - msrconsolationmin@att.net

FAZnotes
(Father Arnold Zamora)
December 22, 2023



Dear St. Robert's parishioners and friends,

Christmas is in the air!

It's Jesus' birthday in 3 days!

But remember, Jesus was and is born for you!

So,

When you wake up say: Jesus I love you ...

When leaving the house say: Jesus come with me ...

When you feel like crying, say: Jesus hug me ...

When you feel happy say: Jesus I adore you ...

When you do something, say: Jesus help me ...

When you make a mistake, say: Jesus forgive me ...

When you go to sleep say: Thank you Jesus and cover me with your holy mantle.

Jesus loves you!

Have a meaningful CHRISTmas sharing Kindness. Be Light of the World!.

Merry Christmas,

-Fr. Arnold